cont of 10^{-6} M RLX for 12 h. Total RNA was extracted as described hereinafter. 1 μg of RNA was reversed transcribed and cDNA were amplified and then subjected to PCR amplification with primers for IFN-γ and IL-4 as discussed more in detail below.

Page 9, please replace the paragraph starting at line 16 and ending at line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

The results are shown in Figs. 4A and 4B. More particularly, Fig. 4A shows competitive PCR for IFN-γ performed on a representative $CD4^+$ T cell clone stimulated with immobilized anti-CD3 antibody in each case, i.e., in one experiment in the upper panel and in another experiment in the lower panel, in the absence (upper lane of each panel) or in the presence (lower lane of each panel) of 10^{-6} M RLX for 12 h. Fig. 4B shows the image analysis of the competitive PCR as described hereinafter.

Pages 9 and 10, please replace the paragraph starting on page 9 at line 23 and ending on page 10 at line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

Southern blot analysis for IFN-γ was carried out with a "nested" probe designed to recognize intervening sequence between primers. This probe was obtained by PCR amplification. Primers were selected using Oligo Primer Analysis Software Version 5.0 (National Biosciences, Inc., Plymouth, MN, USA): upper primer (227) SEQ ID NO: 1 CAGGTCATTCAGATGTAGCGGATA, lower primer (512) SEQ ID NO: 2 TCATGTATTGCTTTGCGTTGGAC (Genset, Paris, France). The DNA fragment of 286 bp amplified by PCR was subcloned using pGEM-T Vector system (Promega Co., Madison, WI, USA) according to the

manufacturer's instructions, and sequenced. Sequencing of the subcloned product was performed using Sequenase version 2.0 DNA sequencing kit (USB, Cleveland, OH, USA). Southern blot was performed as disclosed by E.M. Southern, "Detection of specific sequence among DNA fragments by gel electrophoresis" in J. Mol. Biol. 1975, 98: 503-517.

Please file the accompanying copies of:

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,166,191, issued November 24, 1992 to Cronin et al. ("Cronin"), and

2. Eur. J. Immunol. 1999, 29: 2241-2247, "Relaxin favors the development of activated human T cells into Th1-like effectors," Marie-Pierre Piccinni, Daniele Bani, Lucio Beloni, Cinzia Manuelli, Carmelo Mavilia, Franco Vocioni, Mario Bigazzi, Titiana Bani Sacchi, Sergio Romagnani and Enrico Maggi ("Piccinni-2241").

REMARKS

Original claims 1-6 remain pending in the case.

Claims 1-5 are drawn to the elected method of treating a Th2-dominated disease (claims 1, 4 and 5), inhibiting a pathogenic Th2 response (claim 2), or stimulating the development of activated human T cells into Th1-like effectors (claim 3).

Claim 6 is drawn to the non-elected method of regulating immune homeostasis during pregnancy.

The requirement for providing formal drawings of all figures upon allowance is noted and will be undertaken in due course.